

The Howard County Police Department will be conducting the Collision Avoidance Training (C.A.T.) for 2015, with classes beginning in March and continuing through December.

The C.A.T. program is an advanced defensive driving and vehicle control program for **licensed teenage driver's ages 16-20 years old**. The one day program (8.5 hours) is designed to provide young drivers with the knowledge and understanding of vehicle dynamics.

The first section of the program is devoted to two (2) hours of classroom instruction. This session gives students a better understanding of why the vehicle responds the way it does and prepares the students for the behind-the-wheel exercise on the driving course. The second section consists of six (6.5) hours of behind-the-wheel training. This course provides practical exercises that demonstrate how the vehicle responds in a given situation and how to regain control of the vehicle. The driving skills addressed in the program are: evasive maneuvers, threshold/emergency braking, forward serpentine, cornering, backing, reverse serpentine, and skid and off-road recovery.

During the behind-the-wheel training, students operate their own vehicles. Prior to the start of the training, each vehicle is inspected by an instructor to ensure that the vehicle is in good operational condition. Then each student, accompanied by an instructor (Howard County Police Officer), begins practicing the different driving skills/maneuvers.

Each student must successfully complete each driving skill/maneuver in order to receive a certificate of completion. If the student does not satisfactorily complete the course, they are given the option of coming to another session. This second session would be at no cost to the student.

The Howard County Police Department prides itself on positively impacting the community, providing quality services to citizens and promoting traffic safety within the County.

The cost to each student is \$ 95.00.

The scheduled dates for 2015 are: **March 14 / April 25 / May 16 / June 27**
July 25 / August 22 / September 19 / October 17 / November 21
December 12.

Any questions or inquiries may be directed to:

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